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PRECEPTS OF DIVING WISDOM
OF
SRI GURU GRANTH SAHIB

Dedicated to the 550th Birth Anniversary of

Guru Nanak Dev Ji

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WISDOM
OF
TRUE GURU
AND
EMOTIONAL BONDS WITH WAHEGURU

(2019)

WISDOM

God Exists. He is known by his Grace through Guru's teachings.

Accept the absolute authority of God over His creation in order to unite with Him.

Egotism can only be overcome by acknowledging the sovereignty of God over His creation.

Things happen as enjoined by God.

God communicates with the language of love.

God is Self-Existent. He Exists because of Himself.

God views the True Guru and his disciples with special favor.

It is by God's Grace that one meets the True Guru.

God is not impressed by one's worldly merits.

Guru teaches his disciple many noble lessons.

Love of God brings about many honorable changes in the devotee.

God exalts His chosen ones.

God brought about His creation by a single order. No one can obstruct God's commands.

Sins are cleansed by God's Grace.

God's Grace makes one fit to worship Him.

No one knows the origin of God's creation.

There are universes upon universes in God's creation.

The humble ones are honored by God.

WISDOM

No one will ever know the full scope of God's Greatness.

God's Grace is boundless.

Invaluable and unique is every matter that relates to God.

God's seat of His eternal power is a mystery. Countless are those who sing His praises.

Divine Wisdom is distinctive.

Faith should teach divine wisdom, compassion and supremacy of God.

Nothing is imperfect about the actions of the Perfect Being.

Union of a devotee with God occurs with His Grace.

God is the cause of causes - the grand cause.

God is actively involved with His creation.

The quintessence of godly life is to imbibe the Nectar of God's Name.

The most worthwhile and rewarding labor is to devotedly- remember God.

God Exists. It is from God that all else came into existence.

God's seat of His eternal power is a mystery.

No one has the intellect to fathom the Greatness of God.

Peace and happiness are experienced by remembering God.

The only way to escape the grip of falsehood is to learn from those who are devoted to God.

Death is certain.

Only the True-Guru dispenses knowledge of the Truth.

The entire creation sings praises of God.

Forgetfulness of God leads to pitfalls and suffering in life.

Life's goal should be an earnest and inner-connectedness with God.

WISDOM

All actions performed in life are judged by God.

Only the thoughts and deeds that please God are noble.

Forgetfulness of God leads to entrapment in falsehood.

Guru's instruction destroys all falsehood.

Self-gratification leads one away from remembrance of God.

Fake-instruction leads one away from remembrance of God.

Guru unites his disciple with God.

Guru advises his disciple to congregate and share stories about God.

Fear of the Fearless destroys all fears.

Saints are those who live by Guru's instruction.

Peace and happiness are not possible in disjunction with God.

Death comes to all. One must live a noble life by following Guru's instruction.

Guru's instruction averts ignoble-thoughts and ignoble deeds.

Guru's instruction builds the boat in which one safely crosses the ocean of life.

Guru advises not to waste time and to begin remembering God.

The central issue of life is to learn from the Guru.

Fools seek the temporary and illusory.

God honors those who do not ignore Him for a moment.

Follow Guru's instruction to love the One who is Incomprehensible and who is Omnipresent.

True-Guru's instruction helps overcome one's fire of discontent.

To devote to God is to engage in the most profitable business.

One must make the most in this brief life-time by worshipping God.

God enacts myriad of plays.

Worldly bonds prevent conjunction with God.

True faith enables one to distinguish between heaven and hell.

Love of God is different than observance of rituals.

The godless cannot escape unworthy, immoral conduct.

Everyone is born with a road map of life.

Greatness of God cannot be fathomed.

It is by God's Grace that one is redeemed.

The temporary and illusory temptations snare everyone except Guru's disciple.

Speculations about God can never truly describe Him.

The devotee loves God with ardent affection.

No one except God Himself knows the true extent of His attributes.

To escape ill-thoughts and ill-deeds, one must follow Guru's instruction about God.

Living by falsehood, one's whole being is impure. Living by the truth, one's whole self is made pure.

As one sows, so one reaps. Sow the Name of God, reap peace and happiness.

No one ever has gotten rid of the impurities of one's self without devotion to God.

The real treasure is God's Name. It is obtained with Guru's instruction.

True love for God is what He values above all.

Deep understanding of True Guru's instruction connects one with God who loves His creation.

True love for God is forever and is had as a disciple of the Guru.

The godless person is off the right path and is without support.

All, other than the disciples of the True-Guru, are mired in dysphoria.

Guru's precepts bond one's mind with God. Then one is blessed with eternal peace and happiness.

The outward scintillation without the love of God is futile. The disciple of the Guru worships God and enjoys the unique pleasure therefrom.

The disciple of Guru finds God dwelling within the heart and overcomes fear and worldly temptations.

The illusion of permanence conceals the reality of impermanence.

God is present in the ascetic as He is in the self-indulgent. Satguru (True Guru) teaches how to find the hidden, Indescribable God.

The world is gone astray under the spell of illusion.

Grace of God brings one to the Satguru who frees one of egoism.

Devotee of God comes into this world blessed by God.

God is the sole and grand cause of all that there is beside Him.

The span of human life is comprised of four distinctive stages.

True supplication before God is to ask for the blessing which makes it possible to praise Him.

To ignore Divine Wisdom of the Guru is to sink one's good fortune of having been given human birth.

The essential nature of world is temporary like a white, lofty structure formed of smoke.

The true devotees of God cannot be praised enough.

We are obligated to worship our Creator and Sustainer.

God sanctions union or disunion with Him.

God is the only One who is Eternal. He is the sole cause of drama of creation. To love God is the highest virtue.

Observance of rituals to impress people does not cleanse one's mind.

God brings about the union of body and soul.

Devotion to God trumps all other efforts to free oneself from fear.

Honesty is the corner stone of worship of God.

There is one specific way to unite with God.

What makes one a Musalman - a true follower of Islam?

To be truly-wealthy is to remember God with reverence and love.

To deserve the title of Musalman (Follower of Islam) is tough.

Everyone and everything in this world is here only for a limited time.

A true devotee of God remains loyal to Him under all circumstances.

The path of righteous conduct, which is illuminated by Guru's teachings, leads to true success in life.

Closeness to God saves one from harm and suffering.

The transformation of sugar cane juice into molasses and brown sugar teaches us something profound.

The cycle of birth and death is due to unfulfilled desires in the present life.

A foolish person always speaks that which has no abiding value.

Worship of God is the means to unite with Him.

God determines who is base and who is noble.

God is the only One who is Immortal. He is the Provider of His creation.

God's reign over His creation is eternal.

God's powers transcend the domain of possible.

God is Eternal. He is Benevolent-Benefactor.

It is by God's Grace that one follows Guru's instruction.

That which pleases God happens.

The entire creation is under the absolute command of God.

WISDOM

One ought to accept Guru's teachings unreservedly because the True-Guru dispenses nothing but Truth.

The way out of the conundrum of tyranny, corruption and mass-ignorance is worship of God.

There are irreconcilable differences between the disciples of Guru and those ignorant of Divine Wisdom of Guru.

Successful merchants are those who deal in the Name of God. The benefit of bathing at holy rivers pales before the benefit of worship of God.

Callousness of one's mind is the reason for disjunction with God.

Guru's Divine Wisdom enables one to experience the presence of God everywhere.

The choicest gift of God is His Grace which implants his worships in man's mind.

The fire of discontent can be extinguished only with the Name of God.

Guru is the tree of contentment which bears flowers of faith and fruit of Divine Wisdom.

Guru's words of Divine Wisdom are of surpassing elegance.

True Sikh is not a worldling; and is not discontent.

Disjunction with God creates malevolent disposition.

Human nature is capricious but subject to the Will of God.

Learnedness and sectarian allegiance do not unite one with God.

True love of man with God is irresistible and consummate.

The devotee's thirst for remembrance of god is natural and is insatiable.

The Dhadee - singer of God's praises - sings in God's presence. He is in union with God.

A wrong cannot be wished away. It can only be righted or forgiven.

Pain and pleasure - physical or mental - are ordained by God.

Disconnected with God, people become befuddled, fearful and self-destructive.

The Grace of True- Guru brings about choicest blessings for the disciple.

Ritualism, no matter how austere, accrues no spiritual or moral benefit to the adherent.

The True-Guru always eulogizes the Eternal and Inscrutable One.

Capriciousness changes into faithfulness with God's Grace.

The True-Guru's job is to sing praises of God. This job is assigned to the True-Guru by God Himself.

Humble deportment towards God is essential to conquer the malady of fear.

There are antecedents to union with God.

The invaluable crown jewel - imperishable soul – dwells in the body.

God is engaged in the business of His worship.

One cannot escape sinful conduct without the help of God.

One enjoys the Ambrosia of God's Name when the mind is focused on God in a steady manner with the guidance of Guru.

To conquer one's ego is to unite with God.

The purity of body and mind is achieved in connectedness with God.

God, The Indescribable One, gives knowledge about Himself through the Guru. He gives the ambrosia of His Name to drink.

Union with God is beyond ethics, wealth, worldly success and salvation.

The Ambrosial Name of God keeps one healthy. Otherwise the body becomes the instrument of all sorts of vices.

Everyone is inflicted with five invincible passions.

Devotion to God is the only way to conquer these passions.

Asceticism practiced ritually and without purity of inner self, is meaningless.

Nothing excels God's Name in curative power or as aim of devotion.

The cycle of birth and death is due to disjunction with God and sinful acts.

Mankind wastes away the precious gift of life - gives away a diamond to gain a kowree.

The love of Guru's disciple for God is natural and ingenuous.

Everyone's days in this world are numbered. Aspire for union with God.

Guru's wisdom changes one's perspective and character.

An undisciplined mind is akin to an elephant in the jungle.

Peace, happiness and worship of God cannot be gained without subduing the passions that corrupt the mind.

Worship of God is the only way to peace and happiness in life.

God's sway is over both the ignorant and the wise.

The pursuer of falsehood cannot be free. Only Truth sets one free.

The Jogee, one who is in union with God, learns from and devotes to the True-Guru.

Guru is obeisant to him who is enamored with God.

God is opposed to egotism. He destroys the egotist.

Worship of God trumps all other pursuits and fulfillments.

The devotee of God is content only by experiencing the pleasure that comes from worship of God.

Hail the Guru who unites his disciple with God.

Egotism causes disjunction with God. Disjunction with God causes the cycle of birth and death.

Nothing in God's creation is forever except the affinity to God.

The fundamental focus of Guru's disciple is on Truth. The disciple does not engage in falsehood or evil deeds.

A worthless sinner can be redeemed by the Grace of God.

God's Grace enthralls His worshiper by the impact of His attributes upon the mind of His worshiper.

Only Guru's wisdom can free us from the grip of ignorance and falsehood.

God and His devotee are linked together by true love.

One cannot live a truly-honorable life without the love of God.

Acceptance of Guru's wisdom leads to happiness and self-satisfaction.

Union with God produces supreme fulfillment and joy.

God loves the one who becomes worthy of His love with Guru's teachings.

Profound affection for the Guru frees the devotee from chains of falsehood.

The True Guru connects his disciple with God; bestows peace; destroys anxiety.

Shelter of God is the only way to be free of falsehood and be liberated from the cycle of birth and death.

Attraction to falsehood is overcome only by devotion to God.

God is The Provider. Devotion to the Kind One frees one of worry.

The aim of human life must be no other than the worship of God.

Divine Wisdom of True Guru transforms disciple's character.

The wisdom of True Guru gives many benefits to the disciple and saves him from harm.

Longing for God is satisfied only by union with Him.

Focus on the Eternal should not be forsaken in favor of temporary attachments.

God is like a unique and invaluable jewel whose true worth is revealed only by the True Guru.

'Peace and joy in life' is not had by merely debating the contents of religious books.

An indifferent or loathsome attitude towards God causes great harm.

One is in union with God when one is naturally focused on God.

The way to unite with God is through humility and Grace of God.

Devotion to God is because of emotional bonds with Him.

The devotee is willing to relinquish everything to see God.

One is in union with God if God so decrees, otherwise one is tied to the cycle of birth and death to suffer.

Worship of God improves one's character beyond imagination.

God honors those who are humble before Him.

One needs to devote to the Real, not to the illusory.

If God casts His Glance of Grace, then the devotee worships Him without interruption. The devotee is in union with God.

The inner peace and happiness cannot be had without valuing the wisdom of True Guru.

Devotion to God ought to be thorough.

God is All-Forgiving. He forgives unconditionally.

Disjunction or conjunction with God is decreed by God.

Devotion to God ends all suffering.

God is present in the mind of His devotee. The true devotee and God are inseparable.

Devotion to God trumps all deeds considered meritorious.

The devotee of God aspires for the blessing that makes him humblest of the humble towards other devotees of God.

Intrinsic connectedness with God is the only state when the mind experiences peace and contentment.

He who is liberated by God is humble towards God and is under the control of no one else.

Nothing is imperfect about the actions of the Perfect Being.

Reverence of Guru gives the disciple inner-peace; irreverence condemns the rude person to self-degradation.

Worship God Who exists eternally. This worship is par excellence.

Worship of God accrues untold benefits.

All wishes are fulfilled of the person who God blesses with His Grace.

God favors the humble. He disfavors the egotistical.

Death is certain.

God is All-Forgiving. He uses various remedies to put His devotee on the right course.

The disciple of Guru is contented in enjoying the Ambrosial Name of God.

One merges into the Eternal at the zenith of devotion to The Eternal.

Protection and Grace of God are had with faith in God.

Union with God takes place at the pleasure of True Guru.

Protected by God, one is free of all afflictions.

Any idea and its entertainer or any act and its performer have worth only if God acknowledges them.

Guru has great admiration for God. Guru is obeisant and devoted to God.

The devotee of God has a frank and intimate relationship with Him.

The quintessential precept of Guru's wisdom: Remember God, for it is the most Sacred Truth.

Worship of God is possible only by acknowledging the sovereignty of God over the entire creation.

Love of God brings about many honorable changes in the devotee.

The blessings and wisdom of Guru endow the mind with the Ambrosial Name of God and purify it.

All, the believer and the non-believer are obedient / subservient to God.

Humility towards God brings one closer to Him. Egotism distances one from God.

To be unduly attached to others in life results in repentance at the end of life.

True worship makes the devotee one with God.

The disciple of Guru is rewarded with eternal wealth which is earned by the worship of God.

Life lived in disjunction with God is always dishonorable.

Fellowship with devotees of God is the premier means to unite with God.

The devotee: Worships (loves and reveres); has guidance of; has faith in; cannot live without, is in union with God.

If devotee's worship of God is natural, intrinsic, automatic and on-going, then he is in union with God.

World is the House of God. He lives in it and he scrutinizes the deeds of all.

The cure of egotism is in commitment to Guru's teachings by the Grace of God.

The Creator manages His creation as He pleases.

Guru's supplication to God.

God has unique and wonderful attributes.

Guru Gobind Singh Ji is committed to only the shelter of God.

Worship of God is the only way to escape dire predicament at death and in the after-life.

The cycle of birth and death continues without the knowledge of wisdom of True Guru.

Those who are sincere in their love for God are His true devotees.

To pretend to be pious while engaged in ungodly acts does not endear one to God.

The climax to worship of God is union with Him, as water with water.

The Grace of Guru delivers one from worldly snares.

The devotee of God enjoys supreme bliss.

God is Omnipresent. Recognize Him in the body.

God answers His devotee's prayers.

The wisdom of Guru focuses disciple's mind on God.

To listen to the readings of Puran is of no use without worship of God and without regard for humanity.

God is Inseparable from the person whom He makes His Own.

If the longing for God is intense, then He appears to the devotee.

Lowly is the life of a person without the wisdom of Guru.

One must part company with those who do not worship God.

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

In the process of learning Divine Wisdom from the Guru and making progress towards Sehaj, the disciple is the best judge of progress made towards understanding the precepts of wisdom. Self-evaluation, using the inner voice of truth, informs the disciple if there is mental distance to be travelled to catch up to the thoughts and emotions of the Guru. If the disciple is indeed sincere in learning Divine Wisdom, then there is inner voice.

The company of fellow disciples, who are advanced in their understanding of Divine Wisdom of Guru, proves to be very beneficial towards further gains in internalizing the thoughts and emotions of Guru.

PACE OF PROGRESS OF DEVOTEE TOWARDS SEHAJ

There is a basic and an important precept of Sikh Religion. This precept states that Life on Earth is tied to the cycle of birth and death. This cycle continues because of good and bad deeds done in life till an individual breaks free from the bondage of falsehood. The wisdom of Guru sets the disciple free.

To be born as a human being is due to great fortune and good deeds in the previous birth. These good deeds include worship of God in the prior birth as well as having had come under the influence of some worshipper of God, a saint, in prior birth. Derived from this precept is the idea of 'awareness of God' an individual is blessed with from birth. As such individuals mature, their levels of awareness of God may range from a rudimentary level to a high level of awareness of God. It follows that the pace of progress would vary on the basis of level of awareness of God, to begin with. Some reach the mental state of Sehaj - state of perpetual connectedness with God, Guru and Saints - more quickly than others, depending on the spiritual progress made in prior life.

TWO STATES OF AWARENESS (THOUGHTS AND EMOTIONS) LEARNT BY THE DISCIPLE FROM GURU

The thoughts and emotions that are learnt from the Guru about God, Guru and Saints exist in the mind of a disciple in two states: 1) A passive, dormant state and 2) An active state. In the dormant state, the thoughts and emotions exist in the mind but not at the conscious level. The lessons learnt from the Guru are in the mind as firm commitments or deeply held beliefs, but not at the conscious level. In the active state, the thoughts and emotions are experienced at the conscious level. In this state, there is conscious connectedness of the devotee with God, Guru and Saints.

TECHNIQUES TO GAIN CONNECTEDNESS WITH GOD, GURU AND SAINTS, AT THE CONSCIOUS LEVEL

The mind has a tendency to revert back to the passive state from the active, conscious state of divine thoughts and divine emotions in the mind. The mind does not sustain a conscious state of connectedness with God, Guru and Saints. The lethargy, inertia of mind and distractions obstruct conscious connection with God. Also the effort to overcome resistance of mind to connect with Him is often problematic ad hence discouraging.

The external circumstances of life may be too negative and powerful against the devotee for him to withstand and remain connected. Such circumstances may cause disruption or distraction from connectedness at the conscious level. However, if the wisdom of Guru is held deeply in mind, then the persistence and resilience of mind reconnect the devotee with God, Guru and Saints. The power of reverence and love of the devotee for God, Guru and Saints is capable of overcoming the impact of any adverse circumstance. In addition, devotee's prayer for Grace of God is always of great help to remain connected.

There are techniques of sustaining connectedness. These techniques are helpful only after the disciple of Guru has learnt lessons of Divine Wisdom with some clarity, from the Guru and has made emotional links with God, Guru and Saints with the help of Gurbani. The emotional links may not be well established yet. However, the techniques, over time, would help the disciple understand lessons of Divine Wisdom with more clarity. The techniques would also further strengthen the emotional links with God, Guru and Saints.

The techniques activate the dormant state of thoughts and emotions into the active state. These techniques act as yeast to start the fermentation process, linking the mind with God, Guru and Saints at the conscious level. If practiced with devotion, the following techniques help in connecting the devotee with God:

Maintain good physical and mental health.

Audibly speak Sat Naam, Waheguru (Attributes of God) in order to connect with Him. Sat Naam means, "The One who is Eternal". Waheguru means, "The Perfect Guru, the wondrous Guru, deserving of obeisance and high praise by the devotee of God and disciple of Guru".

Whisper Sat Naam, Waheguru.

Silently reflect on Sat Naam, Waheguru.

Silently move the tongue to mimic speaking Sat Naam, Waheguru.

Reflect on Sat Naam while breathing in and reflect on Waheguru while breathing out. May do this in the reverse order.

Silently sing, making a tune of any Shabad of Gurbani.

Whisper a tune of any Shabad of Gurbani.

Audibly sing making a tune of any Shabad of Gurbani.

Listen to Keertan of high quality and participate when possible.

Recite Sat Naam, Waheguru in the company of other disciples of Guru.

Acknowledge and feel the presence of God everywhere, in everyone and in own mind.

Read or listen to recitation of Gurbani with understanding and devotion.

Repeatedly affirm connectedness with God, while rejecting the awareness of disjunction with Him.

Dwell on connectedness of mind with God, Guru and Saints. This magnifies and intensifies the awareness of connectedness with God, Guru and Saints.

Dwell on various attributes of the Personality of God, as stated in the Divine Wisdom of Guru.

WISDOM

Supplicate to God, Guru and Saints for Grace and request for the blessing of connectedness with them.

Reflect frequently on the narratives of glorious history and heritage that a Sikh is blessed with.

Utter words of reverence and love for God, Guru and Saints.

Meditate on the power of God, Guru and Saints to protect and guide those who have faith in them.

Be grateful for the blessings of God, Guru and Saints. Often remind self of such blessings.

Remember and honor the lives of Gurus, Martyrs and Saints of Sikh Religion.

Intently listen to Sikh Ardaas (Formal supplication).

Do good deeds.

Entertain and act on noble ideas.

Expel negative and mean thoughts from the mind.

Pay full intention while reciting or listening to Gurbani. Control distracting thoughts.

Share understanding of God, Guru and Saints with others.

Avoid entertaining egotistical thoughts and making egotistical claims.

Cultivate a humble deportment.

Be humble towards God, Guru and Saints.

Never demean anyone.

Often remind self of precepts of Guru Granth Sahib.

Never lose hope for eventual connectedness with God, Guru and Saints.

Be hopeful of the help of God, Guru and Saints in dealing with issues of life.

Impress the mind that it is due to great fortune that one aspires for connectedness with God, Guru and Saints.

Often reflect on own deep regard and affection for God, Guru and Saints.

Perform Sewa. Serve fellow Sikhs without financial compensation. Donate time, energy and skills to address the needs of other human beings. Respect and serve nature.

Attend assembly of fellow devotees of God / fellow disciples of Guru. Participate in devotional expressions of members in the assembly. Participate in their activities aimed at serving the congregation.

Cultivate virtues such as truthfulness, contentment, mercifulness / empathy, faith / morality and forbearance.

Praise God, Guru and Saints as often as possible. Do this privately and publically -- in the assembly of Sikhs.

Ponder the meanings of Shabads of Guru Granth Sahib.

Read or listen to the reading of Guru Granth Sahib.

Increase the intensity of own humility towards God, Guru and Saints. Lower the humility to ever-decreasing levels. Lower the level of humility, closer is the devotee to God, Guru and Saints.

Push back and reject the awareness of disconnection when such awareness appears in the mind towards God, Guru and Saints; instead boldly affirm connectedness. Affirm that the mind is connected in great reverence and great love towards the Triad.

Remind self that nothing else equals in esteem / affection that a devotee has for God, Guru and Saints.

Remember God, Guru and Saints with tenderness of heart. This means to have good measure of reverence, good measure of gratefulness, good measure of humility and good measure of love towards each of the Triad.

Try to simulate the tenderness with which Guru praises God.

The above techniques to gain connectedness with God, Guru and Saints may also be used to self-evaluate the level of clarity in understanding the thoughts and emotions expressed in Gurbani. By converting each of the techniques into a question, one can use the questions to self-evaluate one's level of understanding of Gurbani. For example, consider the question: Do you entertain and act on noble ideas? If the answer is no, then it means that one lacks proper understanding of Guru's wisdom. Do you supplicate to God, Guru and Saints for Grace and request for the blessing of connectedness with God, Guru and Saints? If the answer is yes, then one is helping oneself to increase the chances of gaining connectedness with God, Guru and Saints.

EMOTIONAL BONDS WITH GOD

The impression that emerges from the study of precepts of Sikh Gurus - from Guru Nanak Dev Ji to Guru Granth Sahib is - that, overtime, a sincere study of the teachings of True Guru brings the learner closer and closer to God. The True Guru instills such thoughts and emotions in his disciple as lead to emotional bonds with God. In time, these emotional bonds get established and intensify as the disciple evolves to higher levels of awareness of Guru's Shabads. Then a time comes when Guru's Shabads becomes disciple's own. At this stage, the mind of the disciple is akin to that of the Guru. However, this stage of awareness is reached in utmost humility towards the Guru. Thus it is impossible for the disciple to claim equality with the Guru. The awareness of the Sikh about God and godly life may parallel that of his Guru but the disciple always considers himself as the dust of Guru's feet.

The coming of a person to the True Guru, becoming Guru's disciple and then progressing in ideas and emotions, are preordained by the Kind One. It is the destiny of the disciple that propels him towards the pinnacle of awareness - the awareness that inheres in Guru's Shabads and is expressed in the Shabads of True Guru. At this stage, the Grace of God connects the devotee with Himself - in a continuous mode of His remembrance. This state of awareness is called Sehaj - an effortless, automatic and perpetual connectedness of the inner- self of the devotee with God. The devotee experiences spiritual bliss - inner peace, contentment and joy.

The emotional bonds with God and the corollaries of these bonds, that are cultivated by means of the devoted study of the teachings of True Guru, are as follows:

FAITH IN GOD

God Exists and He is Eternal.

True Guru describes the Personality of God.

The attributes of God are infinite.

Each of God's attributes is unique and unequalled by any one.

Faith in God is personal commitment to God who exists eternally. All are bound to the cycle of birth and death without faith in God.

Only the True Guru can help establish faith in God.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

Faith in God cannot be sustained without the guidance of True Guru.

Faith in God cannot be self-actualized. Only the True Guru can establish it.

Faith in God is unshakable only if True Guru and God intervene to help a person.

TRUST IN GOD

The True Guru lays the foundation of trust in God.

God delivers as stated in the Shabads (hymns) of True Guru.

God blesses and continues to bless His devotee.

God's attributes related to man are absolutely dependable.

God honors the trust placed in Him.

OBEDIENCE TO GOD

Desire to always obey God.

Desire to be free of egotism before God.

Conviction that the commands of God are indisputable.

Belief that God is the Absolute Sovereign over His creation.

Belief that egotism towards God is untenable.

WONDERMENT ABOUT THE PERSONALITY OF GOD

The scope of God's powers is immense and infinite.

The creation of God is beyond description.

The attributes of God are infinite.

Beauty and order in God's creation are unsurpassed.

God's creation is immensely diversified.

God is older than time.

God is astonishingly spectacular and yet is unseen. Only mind's eye, which is opened by the

Divine Wisdom of True Guru, can see Him.

God's moral order is unchallengeable.

God wields absolute power to create, to sustain and to destroy.

God has two Selves. One is manifested in His creation. The other Self is prior to his act of creation.

God is present everywhere, both near and afar.

God indwells all living beings.

LONGING FOR GOD

Devotee desires to be close to God.

Devotee engages in effort to remove disjunction with God.

Devotee searches for assistance to be close to God.

Devotee suffers pangs of separation if he is unable to connect with God.

Devotee's longing for God is a consequence of faith in God.

Devotee's longing for God increases over time.

Devotee's longing for God eventually changes into union with God.

Devotee lives his life as a householder while he longs for union with God.

SERVICE OF GOD

God is deficient in nothing. To serve Him is to devote to Him sincerely and with affection.

Service of God is done by doing good deeds in service of God's devotees.

Service of God is done by sharing the Shabads (Hymns) of the True Guru.

Service of God is in helping others to understand the Shabads (Hymns) of True Guru.

Service of God is by doing good deeds without the expectation of rewards of service.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

GRATITUDE TO GOD

It behooves the faithful to be grateful to God for His blessings.

To be grateful to God with a passion brings one closer to God.

Devotee maintains an attitude of gratefulness to God.

Devotee expresses his gratefulness to God by remembering the blessings received from God.

Devotee's acknowledgment of God's blessings may be private or public.

HOMAGE TO GOD

The absolute greatness of God and the absolute purity of His personality command devotee's reverence for Him.

It is from the True Guru that the disciple learns how to revere God with a passion.

Privately, the devotee revers God in his thoughts. Publicly, he revers God by discoursing about His attributes and by singing God's praises.

More intense the reverence for God a devotee has, closer he is to God.

FIDELITY TOWARDS GOD

Commitment of the devotee is absolute to God. He is single-minded in his devotion to God.

Devotee is steadfast in his faith in God.

Devotee is committed to God without reward or gain.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

INTIMACY WITH GOD

Intimacy is mutual between the devotee and God.

The Shabads (hymns) of True Guru inculcate intimacy with God.

The intimacy of devotee with God takes a variety of forms such as the intimacy of the parents with the child, intimacy of the lover with the beloved, intimacy of the benefactor and the beneficiary etc.

Intimacy between the devotee and God grows overtime.

The devotee entertains warm thoughts about God in his heart as these thoughts are expressed in the Shabads of True Guru. He cites Shabads of True Guru while expressing his intimacy with God, in public.

HUMILITY BEFORE GOD

The Shabads of True Guru destroy disciple's egotism and replace it with humility before God. The devotee realizes his insignificance before the grandeur and powers of God.

The phenomenal contrast between man and God, as taught by the True Guru and when understood by the disciple, naturally inclines him towards humility before God.

The devotee expresses humility before God by self- effacement.

God showers His blessings on his humble devotee.

Extreme humility before God destroys egotism completely. In return, God honors His devotee.

FOCUS ON GOD

Focus on God means a vivid image of God's Personality, via His attributes, in the mind of His devotee.

Focus on God is attained by means of Shabads of the True Guru.

The devotee's focus on God is perpetual when the Shabads of the True Guru uplift the awareness of the devotee to a level which approximates the level of the Guru.

Focus on God generates peace and happiness for the devotee.

Focus on God is facilitated by listening and accepting the principles taught in the Shabads of True Guru. It is also facilitated by participating in the company of other devotees as they sing the praises of God.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

INVALUABLENESS OF INTIMACY WITH GOD

Devotee's relationship of intimacy with God is secondary to no other relationship.

Devotee's intimate relationship with God secures blessings and honor from God.

Devotee's intimate relationship with God is preordained by God.

Devotee's intimate relationship with God is created by the True Guru with Guru's teachings and kindness.

PLEASING GOD

The devotee of God treats fellow human beings with compassion and respect.

The devotee of God is truthful in his dealings with fellow human beings.

The devotee of God has no shame or hesitation in acknowledging his personal deficiencies.

The devotee of God accepts the Word of God as spoken by the True Guru in his Shabads.

The devotee of God honors the attributes of God.

The devotee of God considers it to be his great fortune for the opportunity to serve devotees of God.

The devotee of God makes sacrifices to serve the cause of truth.

The devotee of God acknowledges the centrality of God in living his life.

The devotee of God lives his life in harmony with God.

The devotee of God relinquishes egotism which is the cause of disconnection with God.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

SUPPLICATION BEFORE GOD

The devotee appeals to God for forgiveness of wrongdoing.

The devotee appeals to God for connectedness with Him.

The devotee appeals to God to sustain his faith and trust in Him.

The devotee appeals to God for bestowal of firm belief in the Word of God.

The devotee appeals to God for the bestowal of singing His praises.

The devotee appeals to God for his redemption and reformation.

ONENESS WITH GOD

The devotee abhors separation from God.

The devotee enjoys peace and happiness because of enlightenment received from the wisdom of True Guru.

The devotee has control over his passions. He does not engage in bad thoughts or ill deeds.

The devotee has camaraderie with those who seek oneness with God.

The devotee is averse to egotism.

GOD GRANTS FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE

The devotee experiences:

Freedom from worry.

Freedom from fear.

Freedom from inferiority.

Freedom from greed, avarice, wrath.

Freedom from ill-thoughts and ill-deeds.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

STEADFAST RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Devotee's relationship with God is not strained by his varying circumstances or fortunes.

Devotee feels anguish if his relationship with God is disrupted.

INGENOUS RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

The devotee does not cover up anything from God.

Devotee is truthful before God.

Devotee makes frank requests to God for the fulfillment of his needs.

There is absolute lack of deception in devotee's relationship with God.

Devotee makes request freely to God for His mercy and kindness towards him.

MAGNETISM OF GOD

Devotee feels intense attraction towards God, the Perfect Being.

Devotee feels intense attraction towards God, the Pure and Pious Being.

Devotee has intense admiration of God who possesses infinite and matchless attributes.

Devotee has intense admiration of God, for He is merciful and forgiving.

Devotee has intense admiration of God, for He loves the one who loves Him.

HARMONY WITH GOD

Devotee accepts what God does.

Devotee acknowledges the supremacy of God's sway.

Devotee is grateful to God for making him obedient to Him.

Devotee makes his will subservient to God's Will.

Devotee conquers all of those forces that separate him from God.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

RECIPROCATION OF GOD'S FAVORS.

Devotee is eternally indebted to God for God's Kindness in fostering the love relationship with the devotee.

Devotee is in perpetual inner-connectedness with God.

The devotee never tires of thanking and praising God.

Devotee feels absolutely incapable of returning God's favors.

WORSHIP OF GOD

Devotee speaks and contemplates truth about God by means of the Shabads of True Guru.

Praise of God purifies the inner-self of the devotee.

Devotee contemplates the blessings granted by God to him.

Devotee remembers God by recalling God's attributes.

Devout remembrance of God is food for devotee's Aatman, Spirit.

SHELTER OF GOD

Sheltered by God, the devotee is not bothered by fear.

Devotee remains courageous and confident in dealing with difficult situations.

God's Shelter is infinitely superior to any other protection.

To come under the protection of God is to have access to the inexhaustible and innumerable Treasures of God.

LOYALTY TO GOD

Devotee is attached to God just as a loyal dog is attached to his master.

There is nothing superior to the care and affection devotee receives from God.

There is no temptation strong enough to entice the devotee away from loyalty to God.

Devotee has utmost respect for those who are loyal to God.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

DARSHAN (VISION) OF GOD

Darshan Enthralls the devotee. There is nothing like it.

Devotee experiences absolute contentment.

Devotee is absolutely free of malice.

Devotee is engrossed in the vision of God.

Devotee experiences blissfulness.

PANGS OF DISJUNCTION WITH GOD

Devotee longs for union with God in a relentless manner.

Devotee relentlessly ponders over the ideas that may gain connectedness with God.

Forgetfulness of God signifies a conspicuous privation to the devotee.

Devotee supplicates to God to grant him connectedness with Him.

Devotee experiences immense relief upon cessation of disjunction with God.

REPENTANCE OVER HAVING LIVED IN DISJUNCTION WITH GOD

The devotee regrets the loss of time that could have been spent in God's remembrance.

The devotee hopes that God would disregard the time lost in ignorance and disjunction with Him.

The devotee prays for forgiveness to God for his disjunction with Him. And prays to God that it may never happen again.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

KINDNESS OF GOD

The devotee feels great joy over God's favor of His kindness.

There is nothing to aspire and desire that matches the joy received from God's kindness.

The devotee feels compulsion to do good, to do right, to be just and to be virtuous.

The devotee has aversion towards atheism, falsehood, vilification of others, bad deeds, injustice and maliciousness.

The devotee feels closeness to God and the Godly.

The devotee parts with his lower self. He functions at the level of his higher self by virtue of having been inspired by the Divine Wisdom which the devotee receives from the True Guru.

VENERATION OF GOD

The devotee has unique respect of God and the godly.

The respect, for God and the True Guru, makes the devotee upright, fearless and self-confident.

MOST-CHERISHED AND MOST-VALUED RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

The relationship with God is not given up under any circumstances.

Relationship with God is forever.

Nothing is more important to the relationship with God.

The devotee has an ever-present desire to please God.

The prospect of break in relationship with God causes great emotional upheaval.

FORGIVENESS BY GOD

The devotee takes comfort in knowing that God is Ever- Forgiving.

The devotee feels solace in knowing that God is All- Forgiving.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

GRACE OF GOD

The devotee knows that the entrapment of anyone in falsehood can only be overcome by the Kindness of God through the Shabads of True Guru.

The devotee knows that his progress along the spiritual path can only be made with the Kindness of God through the Shabads of True Guru.

The devotee knows that the Grace of God is the panacea of all of his ills.

The devotee knows that the Ambrosia of God's Name can be imbibed only with the Grace of God.

The devotee knows that he can remember God in a continuous manner only with the Grace of God.

The Grace of God (Nadar) has the quality to emancipate and connect anyone with Him instantaneously.

ABSOLUTE SWAY OF GOD

The devotee acknowledges the Absolute Sway of God over all of His creation.

Devotee is freed from the shackles of falsehood.

The devotee is in harmony with how God rules over His creation.

Devotee's acknowledgment of Absolute Sway of God endears him to God.

God blesses the devotee with Ambrosia of His Name.

Devotee is in harmony with God's sway while living his life as destined by God.

God honors who He pleases to honor.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

CONSUMMATE DEVOTION TO GOD

At the pinnacle of devotion, the devotee is:

Completely free of egotism.

Absorbed in marveling at the Grandeur of God.

Eager to bow before the Will of God.

Steadfast during good fortune as well as in hardship.

In union with God.

Aware of and enlightened with Divine Wisdom.

GOD AS FRIEND AND PARENT

The devotee experiences:

Freedom from want.

Freedom from suffering.

Access to all sorts of blessings

The emotional bonds and their corollaries, which join the devotee with God, are fostered by the Perfect Guru (True Guru). As the devotee is impacted by the ideas and emotions, contained in the Shabads (Hymns) of the True Guru, he is drawn closer and closer to God. It is the Divine Wisdom of the True Guru that transforms the personality of an ordinary person into that of a devotee of God. This fact is at the heart of the reason why in Sikhism the True Guru is accorded such a great veneration.

As the various emotional bonds fuse together, a master emotional bond with God takes shape. This master emotional bond with God may be termed Divine Love. Divine Love generates profound appreciation of the Divine Wisdom of Guru. It also generates spiritual bliss, total contentment, sense of great freedom and independence, happiness par excellence, inner-peace, freedom from fear, intense focus on the personality of the Eternal One. The mood of love of God brings about the Darshan - vision - of God by His Grace.

The Sikhs continue to give the same veneration to Guru Granth Sahib as they accord to Guru Nanak Dev and the other nine Gurus of the Sikhs. They regard each of them as the True Guru.

EMOTIONAL BONDS

The precepts of all of the Gurus of Sikhs are wholly congruent. Each of them lived by and taught the same principles. The underlying principles to the decisions they took to meet the contemporary challenges were identical to the precepts of Guru Nanak Dev, the Founder of Sikh Religion. And they dispensed Divine Wisdom on behalf of God as His emissaries.

The Sikhs seek and receive Divine Wisdom and blessings from their Gurus. A Sikh sings praises of the True Guru, for the True Guru connects the Sikh with God.

It should be pointed out that the precepts of Divine Wisdom are not meant only for followers of Sikh Religion. These precepts are of universal importance. They apply to everyone. Anyone may come to the True Guru, in sincerity and humility, to learn the lessons of Divine Wisdom. True Guru's door is open to all. No one is barred from coming to him. How far would a disciple progress spiritually, it depends on his destiny as well as his fidelity as a disciple.

The Tenth Guru of Sikhs, Guru Gobind Singh Ji, enjoined all Sikhs that after his passing on (in 1708 A.D.) to regard Sri Guru Granth Sahib, the Holy Scripture of the Sikhs, as the True Guru after him. Since then, Sri Guru Granth Sahib is revered as Guru by Sikhs and shall continue as the True Guru forever.

Satnam Waheguru

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh